

**Faculty Of Pharmacy and Nursing and health professions**

**SEMINAR IN NURSING RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE**

**NURS334**

**The effects of pregnancy on academic performance for pregnant students in universities.**

**Adnan Abu Arqoub 1182551**

**Jihan Bargouthi 1182887**

**Dania Qassas 1182662**

**Lana Alkhatib 1182665**

**Rafat Sweity 1183061**

**Presented to: Dr. Sahar Hassan**

# Abstract

The objective of this study is to find out how the pregnant female students perform at universities. Do they perform badly or do they perform well according to university standards? Other aims of this research is to find out whether these students perform any different from each other depending on their situational status (if they have any support system, if they have less credits taken in this semester). Our research question is as follows : Does pregnancy influence the academic life of female students at universities in Palestine? This research will be conducted using quantitative method and the data collection will be via questionnaire. Partcipants will be recruited through online. Our participants will be pregnant female university students roughly be about 50-70 participants are from four different universities ( Beirzeit university based in Ramallah , Bethlehem university based in Bethlehem , Jerusalem – Abu Dis- university based in Jerusalem, the American University in Jenin) and the data from these participants will be collected in a time period of two weeks. Data will be analysed by using the statistical package for the social sciences SPSS the latest version.

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PAGE NO + RUNNING HEADS

CHECK APA STYLE GUIDE ON RESOURCES SECTION ON MOODLE

ADD INTEXT CITATION WHEREVER NEEDED

# Introduction

Pregnancy to humans is to bare a fetus or and embryo in the womans womb for nine mounts roughly about 38-40 weeksREFERENCE?. Its an important phase through the female life and it needs attention and support physically and emotionally. This time period in the female’s life is very difficult as it is, the physiological changes that occur on the woman’s body vary from woman to another for example some women could suffer from morning sickness which occur in first trimesterREF, in the second trimester some women start to get extra weight, in general these changes could make the day to day life tasks somewhat challenging, most women could go on with their lives with these challenges, but for some it might be hard, We picked this research subject as the number of pregnant female student is rising in our university we noticed that these students might have some struggling with their studies without special care for them, as pregnancy being a stressor on females. We wanted to see how would it influence the academic performance for female college students., our research question states as follows “ does pregnancy influence the academic performance for pregnant female students at universities in Palestine?. The purpose of this study is to identify what challenges do female students go up against in universities while being pregnant and whether that these challenges make the academic life of pregnant female students more troubling and do they get any special treatment from the educational institutions. we hope to suggest an appropriate solution to help the pregnant go through this phase without much trouble, we hypothesis the following statements :

1. The higher the academic level of pregnant female students the less the academic performance.
2. The presence of maternal illness the higher the absence number. OR better rewoding: Absence from lectures and exams is associated with the presence of maternal illness.
3. The higher the number of antenatal care visits the lower the academic performance
4. Students with advanced gestational age would have less frequent self-studying

# Background and significance

As other researches found that most of the pregnant female students in different universities struggle to keep up to the standard academic performanceREF., these studies found what most of these students struggle with is financial problems in college, problems with attending classes and lectures, some universities even forbid pregnant students from taking classes while being pregnant, other face universities with much psychosocial stress that overwhelms themREF. We hope when we finish this study we will be able to identify the problems that pregnant females face in Palestine specifically as most studies are done in different locations which might have different environments that would affect the challenges and change them, we also hope to know if we could make it any better on them.

Literature review

# Operational / Conceptual frameworks

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Variables | Conceptual | Operational |
| Pregnancy | A stage where a female is bearing a child in her womb from week 1 till she gives birth REF | It’s the state of carrying and developing an embryo or fetus within the female body |
| Gestational age | How much time has she been pregnant for REF | A term used during pregnancy to describe how far along the pregnancy is, and it measured in weeks, and it can range from 38-42 weeks |
| Support system | Does she have close people to support her like family, friends, partner REF | A group of people who provide an individual with practical or emotional support |
| parity | How many times before this current pregnancy did the woman give birth to, no matter how long the previous pregnancy was REF | The number of times that the woman has given birth to a fetus with GA of 24 weeks or more, regardless of whether it was alive or stillborn |
| Residency | Where does the participant live “college dorm, dependent dorm, with a partner, with family, alone?REF | The state of living in a particular place |
| Obstetric history | Did the pregnant female have any issues regarding this current pregnancy or issues during a previous pregnancy REF | Asking questions about the patient’s current and previous pregnancies |
| Antenatal care visits | How many times did the pregnant student visit the doctor or clinic to check up on herself and her babyREF | the routine health control of presumed healthy pregnant women without symptoms (screening), to diagnose diseases or complicating obstetric conditions without symptoms, and to provide information about lifestyle, pregnancy, and delivery. |

NEED TO DEFINE DEPENDENT VARIABLES AS WELL !!!!

# Aim/objectives/hypothesis/research questions

**Research Title**

The effects of pregnancy on academic performance for pregnant students in universities.

**Research question**

Does pregnancy influence the academic life of female students at universities in Palestine?

**Research Hypothesis**

1. The higher the academic level of pregnant female students the less the academic performance
2. The presence of maternal illness the higher the absence number
3. The higher the number of antenatal care visits the lower the academic performance
4. students with advanced gestational age would have less frequent self-studying

**objectives/ Aims**

our objective is to identify how well or badly does the pregnant student perform in their academic life. , we specifically aim for knowing what challenges do they face and how bad is it and if there is any special treatment, they get during this period

# Methods

## Design

## Population and sample

## Setting

## Participants

## Instrument/Tool of data collection

## Variables

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Independent variables** | **Dependent variables** |
| Pregnancy | Academic performance |
| Gestational age | GRADES taken |
| Support system | Clinical training |
| Parity | Class attendANCE |
| Residency | Frequent self-studying |
| Specialty |  |
| Age |  |
| Academic level |  |
| Obstetric history |  |
| Antenatal care visits |  |
| Admission year |  |

## Procedure/fieldwork/administrative part:

## Ethical considerations:

## Data analysis plan:

ADD DISSIMINATION PLAN:

ADD TIMELINE FOR RESEASRCH IMPLEMENTATION

ROLE OF RESEARCH TEAM:

YOUR NAMES AND WHAT DID EACH STUDENTS CONTRUBUTED TO THE PROPOSAL

BUDGET:

APPENDICICES:

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWINGS:

THE QUESTIONNAIRE OF YOU HAVE A READY ONE.

TIMETABLE FOR RESEARCH IMPLEMENTATION

CONSENT FORM IN ARABIC

YOUR CVS (RESEARCH GROUP)

<https://www.medicinenet.com/pregnancy/definition.htm>

<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/002367.htm>

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/support%20system#:~:text=%3A%20a%20network%20of%20people%20who,with%20practical%20or%20emotional%20support>

<https://patient.info/doctor/gravidity-and-parity-definitions-and-their-implications-in-risk-assessment#:~:text=Parity%20is%20defined%20as%20the,born%20alive%20or%20was%20stillborn.&text=A%20nulliparous%20woman%20(nullip)%20has,is%20in%20her%20first%20pregnancy>.

Oxford English dictionary

<https://geekymedics.com/obstetric-history-taking/#:~:text=An%20obstetric%20history%20involves%20asking,respectful%20manner%20are%20absolutely%20essential>.

<http://www.nfog.org/files/guidelines/1%20NGF%20Obst%20Antenatal%20care%20Backe.pdf>